

ER 73117

Approved For Release 2002/06/27 : CIA-RDP78-04718A001500270007-1

Congress

Honorable Philip Young
Chairman United States Civil Service Commission
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Young:

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The (confused) state of the executive may act insofar as it affects this Agency prompts me to place my views before you in the hope that they may be incorporated into any further action the administration may take when the Congress resumes consideration of this bill.

As passed by the House, the bill provides compensation for the Director equivalent to that provided for the service Secretaries and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The Deputy Director of Central Intelligence is placed at the level of the service Under Secretaries, departmental Deputy Under Secretaries, and several like positions. This places the Deputy Director one notch ahead of departmental Assistant Secretaries.

The Senate committee on Post Office and Civil Service recommended the same provision for the Director of Central Intelligence but dropped the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence to the level of departmental Assistant Secretaries.

I do not desire to comment on the amount of compensation that should be provided for the positions of Director and Deputy Director of Central Intelligence. I do wish to stress, however, the necessity of having these positions established at the appropriate level of the executive branch generally. Otherwise the functioning of all senior levels of the Agency is impaired by an implicit down-grading which raises obstacles to our establishing working relationships with the appropriate officials of other governmental departments.

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Inasmuch as the Director of Central Intelligence is a regular participant in the deliberations of the National Security Council and is a full member of the Operations Coordinating Board, it would seem fitting for him to be bracketed with the Deputy Secretary of Defense, Under Secretary of State, and the senior administrative assistants to the President with whom he works on completely equal terms.

Whether the Director's position is established at this second level or remains as provided in the current versions of the Act at the level immediately below, the position of Deputy Director of Central Intelligence should be equated to that of Deputy Under Secretary of executive departments and not to that of Assistant Secretary. This is essential not only from the point of view of the broad responsibilities of the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence but also because the principal operating deputies below him in the Central Intelligence Agency must deal as equals with assistant secretaries of other departments, particularly State and Defense. This de facto equality has long been recognized in the composition of interdepartmental boards such as the Planning Board of the National Security Council.

I therefore hope that the administration's position on this legislation will make clear that the relative positions of the Director and Deputy Director of Central Intelligence should be established as befits their functions and responsibilities as set forth above. I shall be happy to provide you with any further data or to discuss any aspect of this matter with you.

Sincerely,

Allen E. Dulles
Director

O/DD/I
Ranney Jr/bac
(10 Aug 55)

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